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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

96-HOUR REPORT

13 NOVEMBER 2017

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Anaheim – Legionnaires Sickens 12 in California, Including 9 at Disneyland

(U) Disneyland has shut down and decontaminated two cooling towers following an outbreak of Legionnaires disease that sickened 12 people, nine of them guests or employees at the theme park in Anaheim, county health officials said on 11 November. One of the three cases of the respiratory illness not linked to Disneyland was fatal in an individual who had additional health issues, said Jessica Good of the Orange County Health Care Agency. The chief medical officer for Walt Disney Parks and Resorts, Pamela Hymel, said in a written statement that after learning of the Legionnaires cases, park officials ordered the cooling towers treated with chemicals to destroy the bacteria and shut them down.

SOURCE: 11 November 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) Los Angeles – Nearly 50 Arrested in Mexican Mafia Bust

(U) State agents, police, and sheriff's investigators arrested 47 people and seized weapons and drugs on 9 November in what was described as a gang takedown targeting Mexican Mafia and drug cartel members in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties. The arrests were made after agents working with Riverside police obtained 30 felony arrest warrants alleging such offenses as solicitation to commit murder, assault with a deadly weapon, narcotics trafficking, firearms violations, extortion, and conspiracy for the benefit of a criminal street gang, according to California Attorney General Xavier Becerra. In addition to the arrests, investigators seized three-dozen firearms—including assault-type weapons—12 pounds of methamphetamine, three pounds of heroin, 120 pounds of marijuana, 60 pounds of cocaine, and \$35,000 in "criminal proceeds," according to Becerra.

SOURCE: 9 November 2017, [My News LA](#)

(U) San Diego – Coast Guard Seizes 1900 Pounds of Cocaine

(U) The US Coast Guard recently seized more than 1,900 pounds of cocaine estimated to be worth more than \$44 million off the Pacific coast of South America. The Coast Guard announced on 9 November that the seizure was made thanks to intelligence from various federal US law enforcement agencies that led to a small vessel with bundles of drugs onboard. One Ecuadorian and two Colombians have been taken into custody on drug smuggling charges.

SOURCE: 9 November 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – Feds Announce New Measures to Prosecute Fentanyl Traffickers in US

(U) Washington – In a joint effort, the Department of Justice and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) announced they will allow federal prosecutors to now charge people who traffic fentanyl analogues or synthetics as if they were true forms of fentanyl. Under the new orders, anyone who possesses, imports, distributes, or manufactures any illicit fentanyl analogue will be subject to criminal prosecution, just as those who traffic in fentanyl and other controlled substances are. Fentanyl is a Schedule II drug, considered by the DEA to have a high potential for abuse, potentially leading to psychological or physical addiction.

SOURCE: 9 November 2017, [CBS News](#)

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UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY**(U) District of Columbia – Homeland Security: Warns of Weaponized Drones as Terror Threat**

(U) Washington – The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) issued a bulletin warning Americans about the potential threat of terrorists using weaponized drones as possible means to attack commercial aircrafts in the US. The updated bulletin also included warnings of chemical attacks. The bulletin was recently updated following growing concerns about terrorists targeting the airline sector, according to a DHS official. The National Terrorism Advisory System replaces the old color-coded system indicating the level of threat facing Americans. Bulletin is the lowest, elevated alert is mid-level, and the highest imminent alert "warns of a credible, specific and impending terrorism threat against the United States," according to the bulletin.

SOURCE: 10 November 2017, [US News & World Report](#)

(U) Minnesota – Terror Convict Released to Family

(U) Minneapolis – A Minnesota man serving 20 years of supervised release for conspiring to join ISIS has been released from his federal halfway house. US District Judge Michael Davis granted 21-year-old Abdullahi Mohamud Yusuf—who was among nine Minnesota men sentenced last year for conspiring to join ISIS in Syria—to be released to his family on 9 November. He was barely 18 when FBI agents stopped him in 2014 as he was trying to leave the United States. He cooperated with prosecutors and was sentenced to time served, plus two decades of supervised release.

SOURCE: 9 November 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL**(U) France – France Charges Eight Suspects after Counterterrorism Sweep**

(U) Paris – The Paris prosecutor's office says preliminary terrorism charges have been handed to eight suspects in a French-Swiss counterterrorism sweep last week. An official said the eight were charged for association with a terrorist network, with seven in custody and one under judicial supervision. Ten people suspected of using encrypted social networks to prepare a possible attack were arrested on 7 November during operations in France and Switzerland aimed at clarifying details of an alleged plot.

SOURCE: 11 November 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) Somalia – US-Targeted ISIS in Somalia Could be a 'Significant Threat'

(U) Mogadishu – ISIS' growing presence in Somalia could become a "significant threat" if it attracts fighters fleeing collapsing strongholds in Syria and Iraq, experts say, and already it seems to be influencing local al-Shabaab extremists to adopt tactics like beheadings. The US military this month carried out its first drone strikes against ISIS fighters in Somalia, raising questions about the strength of the group that emerged just two years ago. A second strike targeted fighters yesterday, with the US saying "some terrorists" were killed.

SOURCE: 13 November 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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